

Miller & Rhoads. Miller & Rhoads.

## Men's Warm Underwear for This Blizzard Weather

"Self preservation is the first law of nature." Why not let us help you to carry out this law in the Men's Corner.

Cold—"Blizzard days of sleet"—and more cold to come. Warm Underwear is absolutely essential to your welfare.

In the Men's Corner you will find Underwear—the best that's made—sanitary and helpful to health, the only kind worth having.

Value for value, the Men's Corner recognizes no equal where Men's Underwear is concerned. Put us to the test.

**MEN'S FLEECE LINED UNDERWEAR.** heavy and close knit. The fleece lining is knitted on in manner to prevent matting in washing. This Underwear is in gray and brown and sells for **50c**. You can buy all kinds of Underwear at 50c, but you can't equal these garments.

**MEN'S SPRING NEEDLE UNDERWEAR.** ecru ribbed garments retaining their shape. Shown in medium and heavy weight cotton **\$1.00**

**NORFOLK AND NEW BRUNSWICK HEAVY UNDERWEAR.** Fashioned garments, made to fit and correctly sized. This Underwear is recognized as the very best in heavy weights at the price **\$1.00**. Better garments in white and natural wool at \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.25.

## Boys' Underwear Here

A customer remarked the other day that "most stores didn't seem to give as much thought to Boys' Underwear as we did." It's true, too. We make a feature of Boys' Underwear.

Bring the chaps in and let us fit them in snug undergarments for this wind-biting weather.

**BOYS' HEAVY UNDERWEAR.** brown mixed, fleece lined. Big, heavy garments at **25c**.

**BOYS' HEAVY SANITARY UNDERWEAR.** fleece lined. Wright's Health Underwear, in all sizes. **50c**

Miller & Rhoads

## PLAN FOR CHANGES IN FORM OF GOVERNMENT

Delegations From Many Virginia Cities Meet Here To-Day.

ECONOMY AND EXACT METHOD

Will Prepare New Section of Constitution Governing Cities and Towns.

Delegates from many cities of the Old Dominion will join in a conference opening this morning at 10 o'clock at the Jefferson Hotel, the object of which is to suggest to the forthcoming session of the General Assembly a method of government which will suit the individual needs of the various municipalities of the State.

A subcommittee, consisting of two members from each city participating in the conference, one from the municipality and one from the principal commercial body, will meet at 10 o'clock this morning at the Jefferson Hotel to prepare a suitable proposed revision of Article VIII of the State Constitution, providing for the government of cities and towns. That committee will report to the full session to-morrow morning.

Richmond, Roanoke, Norfolk, Charlottesville, Staunton, Alexandria, Lynchburg, Petersburg and other Virginia cities are to be represented.

**Richmond's Delegates.** The following members of the Chamber of Commerce have been appointed by President F. D. Williams to act as the Richmond delegation to the conference: James Caskie, chairman; C. D. Coleman, H. W. Rountree, H. L. Cabell, William T. Dabney and Coleman Wortham.

The municipal delegation from Richmond is composed of President J. B. Wood, of the Board of Aldermen, President R. L. Peters, of the Common Council, and Councilman John A. Cutchins, chairman of the special committee on changes in the form of government. John W. Craddock, of Lynchburg, will call the committee to order, and W. Steed, city clerk of Norfolk, will act as temporary secretary until a formal organization has been effected. The object of the conference is to present to the Legislature certain important changes in the general laws affecting the government of cities. There is a general sentiment that more scope for self-government is needed. In appointing delegates to the conference no city binds itself to accept any changes that may be made, but simply requests that Legislature to make optional the adoption of certain changes which will enable each city to solve its own municipal problems in its own way. The conference grows out of the meeting of the League of Virginia Municipalities held in Staunton last fall, and a later conference in Roanoke of representatives of commercial and municipal bodies.

**For Economy and Exact Methods.** The conference is not intended as a reflection upon the present administration of any city, but is simply a cooperative movement looking to better conditions. "More economical, expeditious and exact methods of city government," is the officially expressed purpose.

The Staunton conference resolved that there was obvious need of a constitutional amendment authorizing the cities of Virginia to modify their systems under certain defined limitations, leaving to each city the option of adopting such form of government as seemed best under the conditions then existing.

Both the Staunton and Roanoke conferences endorsed the plan of having this meeting just before the assembling of the Legislature in order to recommend to that body some definite action.

municipal charters providing for what is commonly known as the "commission" form of government, and without determining on the question whether such form is expedient in Virginia, either generally or with reference to the needs of any particular city, the conference felt that the Constitution should be amended so as to admit of some option by cities in regard to their administration.

**May Discuss Other Matters.**

The full conference, which meets to-morrow morning, is composed of such number as the authorities of each city, both commercial and municipal, may see fit to send. The subcommittee, which meets to-day, will report to the full session to-morrow. In the larger session each city will have two votes, one from the municipal delegation and one from the commercial.

It is possible that other matters not heretofore mentioned may be discussed, as provision to that effect is made in the call for the conference.

The sessions will be open to the public.

## MANY ACCIDENTS ON ICY STREETS

Several People Injured and Hundreds of Horses Fall.

Ice sidewalks and streets formed a continual source of danger all yesterday, but there were comparatively few accidents, and the accidents that did occur were not of a serious nature. Every inch of walking space was frozen, and it was with the greatest difficulty that progress was made either by foot passengers or vehicle drivers. The glass protection in front of them froze with every whiff of moist-laden air, and it was almost impossible for them to see a yard ahead. A Clay Street car and a Broad and Twenty-fifth Street car collided at Seventh and Broad Streets yesterday afternoon, and the Broad and Twenty-fifth Street car was knocked off the track, the rear truck being left at almost right angles to the forward truck. The car was delayed for fifteen minutes. There were few passengers aboard the cars, and no one was hurt. There were many other minor accidents, the most serious of them being to the quadrupeds. Two horses had to be shot by Agent E. C. Taylor, of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, as the result of falling on the ice-clad streets and breaking their legs, and others were rendered unfit for further work. At least 100 horses and mules slipped and fell, and in many cases serious accidents were narrowly avoided. The work of the Street Cleaning Department and the Virginia Railway and Power Company, who placed sawdust and ashes on most of the asphalt paving and particularly on the hills, where the greatest danger was to be feared. Many horses had their feet encased in bagging to prevent slipping, the teams presenting a unique appearance.

Many people fell on the slippery sidewalks, and several were hurt. Dr. Davis, of the city ambulance corps, was called to attend Miss Mamie Mitchell, of 1735 Washington Street, who slipped upon her doorstep and sprained her wrist. Miss Mamie Jones, of 625 South Pine Street, fell and sprained her hip. Josie Hill, colored, of 1715 Richard Street, fell while attempting to get on a street car and suffered a slight concussion of the brain. She was treated temporarily by Dr. Davis and left at her home. Others avoided skating on slippery sidewalks by taking to the "middle of the road," where the surface was much easier for walking. In fact, long before daylight nearly every foot passenger made his way home through the middle of the streets, leaving the sidewalks to the less wary and the more adventurous.

## TAX EQUALIZATION BILL IS PREPARED

Deed Books to Be Used as Bases for Assessing Real Estate.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETS

Body Now Carefully Preparing General Appropriation Bill.

Armed with a tentative bill aimed at abuses in assessments of real estate in Virginia, the subcommittee headed by Senator George Latham Fletcher will to-day report to the Senate Finance Committee a plan intended to be the first step in the direction of tax equalization. The whole committee will carefully consider the proposed measure.

While the members of the subcommittee are not willing to talk about the matter in advance of action by the entire committee, it is known that it is intended that valuations of property as shown by deed books be used as the basis for determining assessments in the quinquennial real estate valuation of 1910. The action of the assessors is to be subject to a reviewing body, which may accept or reject their findings, but the tentative bill, it is learned, does not contemplate the creation of a State equalization board.

**Committee Reconvenes.** The Senate Finance Committee re-assembled yesterday after the holiday recess, and met at noon in the courtroom of the State Corporation Commission. The members present were Senator George B. Keck, chairman, Senator Edward Echols, Senator Saxon W. Holt, Senator W. W. Sale, Senator E. E. Holland, Senator M. Ashby Wickham, Senator A. C. Harman and Senator W. A. Garrett. The absentees were Senators J. D. Elam, Don P. Halsey, Geo. Latham Fletcher, Senator E. B. Felt, Senators Elam and Fletcher arrived last night.

From noon to 2 o'clock, and from 4 o'clock to nearly 7, the committee labored with the problem before it of short bills and long demands. Without equivocation the situation was squarely faced, and there was no controversy over the proposition that some of the appropriations must be cut or more money must be secured. It is felt that if some fair method of tax equalization can be secured, the State will realize a greatly increased revenue, without putting a burden upon any one, and thereby doing justice to sources which have heretofore not paid a proper proportion of the burdens of taxation.

No new requests were heard. State Highway Commissioner P. St. Julien submitted some figures from the records of the highway which had been requested by the committee before adjournment was taken just prior to Christmas.

**Bill Being Formulated.**

A list of State departments and institutions, with the amounts appropriated for each by the last General Assembly, together with the requests now being made, has been prepared and is before the committee. This list, of about 100 items, is being taken up by the committee section by section. The needs in each case as presented to the committee during the hearings are carefully considered. It is realized that in certain instances, notably of maintenance of the increasing number of patients in the State hospitals, large appropriations will be necessary, but there is no denial of a general feeling that strict economy must be practiced.

Finally, it seems probable that some sort of bill, comprising the best judgment of the committee as to what the departments and institutions should receive in the light of the condition of the State Treasury, will be prepared and printed and laid upon the desk of each member of the General Assembly when the two bodies are called to order next Wednesday. Thus, in a measure, at least, the spirit of the Folkes resolution will be carried out.

## RAILROAD TAX CASE NOW BEFORE COURT

Argument in Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Franchise Assessment Is Begun.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL SPEAKS

Four Hours of Speech-Making Allowed—Hardy Case Is Submitted.

Considering the importance of the points involved, the Supreme Court yesterday granted leave to counsel in the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac franchise tax case to devote four hours to argument. The rule is a maximum of two and one-half hours in each case before the court—one and a quarter hours to each side. The case of the Commonwealth against the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac road, considered one of the most important to be heard in the Supreme Court for several years, was called at noon yesterday. The argument was begun by Attorney-General William A. Anderson, who occupied one hour and fifteen minutes of his two hours. He was followed by Allen Caperton Braxton for the railroad company, Mr. Braxton speaking for only a few minutes before court adjourned for the day. He will conclude his argument this morning, and the Attorney-General will close for the Commonwealth.

**Involves Franchise Tax.** Each year the State Corporation Commission has been assessing a franchise tax against the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad, in spite of the exemption from taxation conferred in its original charter. Upon each occasion the case has been argued, taking the matter to the Circuit Court of the city of Richmond. The case at bar was decided in favor of the railroad in the lower court, and was made a test case.

The contention of the Commonwealth, as indicated in the argument of the Attorney-General, is that the exemption from taxation in the charter of the road did not apply to franchise taxes, and that if it did so apply, it has been forfeited by the acceptance of certain amendments conferred by the General Assembly.

Major Anderson made what was considered a singularly strong argument. This case has been made a favorite study by him, and he has carefully prepared himself for its presentation to the Supreme Court, in spite of his recent activities in the State debt matter. Mr. Braxton's main argument comes to-day.

**Hardy Case Submitted.** The fate of Samuel Hardy is now in the hands of the court. Upon the closing of yesterday's session, Hill Carter of Richmond made a final argument for the Nansemond county prisoner, who is under sentence of death for murder. A decision is likely to be rendered within two or three weeks.

Following the Hardy case, the cause of Frank Dix against the Commonwealth was argued by W. B. Sanders and T. J. Downing, for the plaintiff in error, and by Assistant Attorney-General Robert Carter for the Commonwealth, and submitted.

Dix was convicted on January 22, 1909, in the Circuit Court of Lancaster county, of unlawfully selling liquor, and was fined \$75 and put under a bond of \$500. The absence of a material witness is the main ground for the contention for a new trial.

**Next Cases.**

The next cases to be called are as follows: Beury and others against Davis, Jr., on the privileged dockets; Miller and others against Pennington and others; Wood and others against Tredway and others; Norfolk and Western Railway Company against Blackstone Guano Company; Carter against Jeffries; Norfolk and Western Railway Company against Overton's administratrix; city of Richmond against Lambert and others, being cases Nos. 13 and 25 to 29, inclusive, on the argument docket.

**FIVE-YEAR-OLD WANDERER**

Child Picked Up by Police in Freezing Condition.

Marion Johnson, a colored boy five years old, was arrested last night at Fifth and Baker Streets on a charge of being a vagrant and in danger of freezing to death.

Marion had wandered from the home of his great-aunt, Millie Roland, who has charge of him while his mother, Martha Johnson, of 28 Fritz Street, is at her work as a family servant. "An't" Millie said last night that she had just gone out to scratch up something to eat for herself and her charge, and when she returned she found him gone. Marion, though but five years old, was dressed in long trousers, and he walked forth as a man of the world. He got as far as Fifth and Baker, where he met an officer, placed in the same car in the trap-car, and was taken to the Second Police Station. They put him to sleep by the furnace, and Marion took off his shoes and laid himself down for the night. He was awakened shortly after 10 o'clock, and was taken to the police station. He was rather drowsy and far from freezing. An anxious mother and a nervous great-aunt took charge of him, and Marion, still half asleep, and with most of his clothes hanging over his belt, was taken home.

**GIVE TRAP CAR SERVICE**

But One Road Has Failed to Accede to Request of Chamber.

Excepting the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad, which has not yet assented to a plan concerning the trap-car service, all the railways operating to and through the city have agreed to accede to the demands of the Chamber of Commerce, which since last year has been endeavoring to induce them to adopt that system, and the absorption of switching charges.

**Committee Meetings To-Night.** The Council Committee on Grounds and Buildings and Finance has been called to meet to-night at 8 o'clock.

**CUT THIS OUT**

Keeps That Breaks a Cold in a Day and Cures Any Curable Cough.

"Mix half-ounce of Concentrated pine compound with two ounces of glycerine and half a pint of good whiskey. Shake well each time and use in doses of a teaspoonful to a tablespoonful every four hours. These ingredients can be obtained from any good druggist, or he will get them from his wholesale house, as they are sold in bulk."

The Concentrated pine is a special pine product and comes only in half-ounce bottles, each enclosed in an airtight case, but be sure it is labeled "Concentrated." The prominent local druggist says that he has filled this prescription hundreds of times and has seen it work wonders.

## A Clearance Sale of Richmond's Finest Clothing at Reduced Prices

A reduction sale that many of you have been waiting for.

## GANS-RADY COMPANY

Offer, beginning this morning, hundreds of their choicest

Suits and Overcoats Which Sold Up to \$28.00, at **\$16 Each**

It's a sale of Suits and Overcoats which are recognized for their exclusiveness of patterns and superiority of fit and finish. Sale begins this morning.

**\$16.00 for Suits and Overcoats Which Sold Up to \$28.00**

## GANS-RADY COMPANY

## ALEXANDER WEDDELL NAMED AS U. S. CONSUL TO ZANZIBAR



ALEXANDER W. WEDDELL, Named yesterday as United States Consul to Zanzibar.

Richmond Man Honored by Administration After Successful Service Abroad.

HAS BEEN IN BUSINESS HERE

Associated With Williams Banking House and Virginia Railway and Power Company.

Alexander W. Weddell, of 8 North Second Street, has been appointed by President Taft to the consulate of the United States at Zanzibar, East Africa, following his successful service in other government positions at Copenhagen, Denmark, and in the Congressional Library at Washington. Mr. Weddell has not received official notification of his most recent appointment, but advises from Washington thoroughly confirm the report that he has been selected for the position of honor at Zanzibar.

The appointee is widely known in social and business circles in Richmond, having been associated with the city since his early childhood. At Copenhagen he was attached to the American legation, and although now less than forty years old, has had a wide experience in the foreign service of this country. In May last, after being designated by the President, he took the customary examinations and finished second in a class of thirty-five contestants.

**Was in Business Here.** Mr. Weddell is a son of the late Rev. M. Weddell, D. D., rector of St. John's Episcopal Church. He was for a number of years connected with the firm of John L. Williams & Sons, of this city, and received his appointment at Copenhagen after graduating in law at George Washington University in Washington. He was at one time an assistant in the Congressional Library. Mr. Weddell will not leave to assume his duties in East Africa for several months.

He is now employed by the Virginia Railway and Power Company.

**FRANK SKELTON INJURED**

Suffers Concussion of Brain in Fall Near Eighth and Main.

Frank Skelton, seventeen years old, of 1713 Floyd Avenue, fell on the ice near Eighth and Main Streets yesterday afternoon, and suffered a concussion of the brain. He was removed to the office of his uncle, John Skelton Williams, in the chamber of Commerce, and was later taken to the Memorial Hospital. He was rendered unconscious from the fall, and was still in a serious condition when physicians examined him last night. He is expected to recover, though it is said the skull is slightly fractured.

**SUFFERS BAD FALL**

James Gentry Injured by Fall on Ice at Third and Main Streets.

James Gentry, of 7 South Fourth Street, suffered a severe scalp wound last night in a fall at Third and Main Streets. Gentry was about to step from the curb onto the south sidewalk, when his foot slipped from under him. He was removed to Shields's drug store, where the ambulance was summoned. An examination showed that the fall had not been fractured, and he was able to get home without assistance.

## MISS ROBINS FALLS ON ICY DOORSTEP

Slippery Street Causes Serious Accident—Concussion of Brain Feared.

Miss Sallie Nelson Robins, of 310 East Franklin Street, was rendered unconscious late yesterday afternoon by a fall on the ice in front of the home of her sister-in-law, Mrs. John G. Farland, at 506 East Grace Street. She was taken into the house, where an examination was made by three physicians. After an hour's treatment, she regained consciousness.

Miss Robins was accompanied by her mother and sister-in-law, all of whom were returning home after a wedding. The victim of the accident was about to place her foot on the first step when she fell backwards, striking her head on the pavement. It was at first thought that she had suffered a concussion of the brain, but the doctors declare that the injury is not so serious, and that the chief danger now is from shock.

Dr. D. A. Kuyk, of 506 East Grace Street, was present in the residence, but fearing that the injuries were serious, two other physicians were summoned. Miss Robins is an accomplished vocalist, and has received instruction from some of the best masters in the country. It is believed that she will soon recover from the effects of her fall, although the extent of her injuries cannot be definitely known for several days.

**536 FIRE ALARMS**

Annual Report of Chief James Will Show Fire Loss of \$150,000.

In his annual report to be made at the next meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Chief James will show an approximate loss for the year just passed of \$150,000. There was a total of 536 alarms. Of these 148 were regular bell alarms, four special alarms, five special calls, 157 silent alarms and 137 silent alarms.

**Advertising Men Here.** Barron G. Collier, of New York, head of one of the largest advertising agencies in the country, was at the Jefferson yesterday.

**Charged With Stealing Wine.** Richard Robinson, colored, was arrested yesterday on a charge of stealing a bottle of wine from the Miller Supply Company.